Docket No.: 0171-1248PUS1

Confirmation No.: 4595

Examiner: J. L. Stanley

Art Unit: 1796

(PATENT)

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of:

Kensuke ITAKURA et al.

Application No.: 10/559,999

Filed: December 9, 2005

For: POWDERS, FLAKES, OR PELLETS

CONTAINING SALTS OF α -SULFO FATTY

ACID ALKYL ESTERS IN HIGH

CONCENTRATIONS, PROCESS FOR

PRODUCTION THEREOF, GRANULATED

DETERGENTS, AND PROCESS FOR

PRODUCTION THEREOF

AMENDMENT AFTER FINAL ACTION UNDER 37 C.F.R. 1.116

MS AF Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Madam:

INTRODUCTORY COMMENTS

In response to the Office Action dated February 6, 2009, finally rejecting claims 1-3, 11, 16 and 18, please amend the above-identified U.S. patent application as follows:

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 6 of this paper.

Remarks/Arguments begin on page 8 of this paper.